

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Drawings

Applicants have herewith submitted the formal drawings. The drawing numbers are changed to conform to the PTO guidelines. Corresponding text has been amended to conform to the guideline. No new matter has been added.

Claim Objections

Claim 11 is objected to for certain informalities. Claim 11 has been amended to remove informalities.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to recite statutory subject matter. Applicant respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 USC §101.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ramaswamy et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5, 740, 203). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 3 has been amended to recite specific constellation sizes. Ramaswamy does not teach this limitation. Accordingly, claim 3 is patentably distinguishable from Ramaswamy.

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Vijayan et al. (U. S. Patent No. 5, 151, 296). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 11 has been canceled.

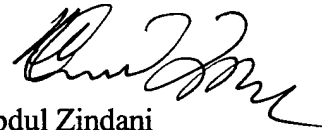
Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) (with regards to the above 101 rejection) as being unpatentable over Kennard et al. (U. S. Patent No. 4, 855, 692) in view of Paik et al. (U. S. Patent No. 5, 363, 408).

Claim 1 has been amended to recite specific constellation sizes. Neither of the cited references teaches this limitation. Accordingly, claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from the cited references.

Applicant believes this application and the claims herein to be in a condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have further inquiry concerning these matters, please contact the below named attorney for Applicant.

Respectfully submitted,



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